



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cuyahoga Valley
National Park

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Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

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Big Year Birder to Lecture as Part of Cuyahoga Valley Lyceum Series

Ohio bird enthusiasts adventures were portrayed in Hollywood film by Jack Black


Brecksville, Ohio – Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) and the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park are pleased to welcome bird enthusiast Greg Miller to Happy Days Lodge, on Friday, January 11, 2013, as part of this season's Lyceum Lecture Series. Miller's lecture begins at 7 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m. General seating. Admission is \$6 adults and \$3 children ages 3 - 12.

Advanced sales are available by calling 330-657-2909. On lecture days, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636 ext. 228 after 2 p.m. for up-to-date ticket availability and severe weather cancellations.

Greg Miller has been birding for more than 50 years. In 1998, he zigzagged across the continent to try to see as many species of birds in one calendar year as possible. He travelled 130,000 miles while trying to hold down a full time job at a nuclear power plant. Miller describes it as an incredible experience to pass the 700-species mark—an achievement many birders aspire to in a lifetime. But there was competition. Two other birders, Sandy Komito and Al Levantin also did Big Years the same year and also broke the 700-species mark. Their competitive bird quest was documented in the 2004 book, *The Big Year* by Pulitzer Prize winning author Mark Obmascik. Twentieth Century Fox made a full feature motion picture inspired by the book. Miller was portrayed by actor Jack Black and other actors included Steve Martin and Owen Wilson.

Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula 44264, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals, call the Conservancy at 330-657-2909 ext. 119.

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CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or call 330-657-2752.

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about the Conservancy and its membership program, visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org or call 330-657-2909

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